



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

FEB 04 2013

Mr. Thomas Bonetti  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
Regional Office  
300 Westgate Center Drive  
Hadley, MA 01035

Re: Final Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan  
and Environmental Impact Statement, December 2012, CEQ # 20120406

Dear Mr. Bonetti:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge's Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (CCP/EIS). In our August 27, 2012 review letter of the Draft CCP/EIS, we rated the environmental impacts of the proposed action as LO (Lack of Objections). Based on our review of the subject document we have no objection to the project.

We recommend that the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) continue to work closely with federal, state, and local stakeholders throughout the implementation of this plan and any adaptive management decisions. In addition, the FWS should coordinate closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and EPA on any Clean Water Act Section 404 permit issues that may arise from proposed impacts to waters of the United States.

As mentioned in our August 2012 comments, regarding pesticide application, all pesticides should be mixed, loaded and applied in accordance with label specifications and all applicators must be certified with the Delaware Department of Agriculture or working under the supervision of a certified applicator.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Barbara Okorn, staff contact, at (215) 814-3330.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barbara Rudnick", is written over a horizontal line.

Barbara Rudnick  
NEPA Team Leader